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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

Remember that, when moving house, you could manage all of your service and utility transfers over the phone -- except your phone service? For that you had to take your old phone into the AT&T Phone Store, fill-up a bunch of paperwork, and pay for an identical, "new" leased phone, which you then took to your new home. There, you waited until an AT&T technician came and plugged it in for you. That was the AT&T telephone monopoly!

The new (but hardly improved) "AT&T" and "Verizon" (once Bell Telephone's South Western Bell, and New York Telephone) duopoly already have a similar stranglehold on technology and pricing (compare what the rest of the world calls standard 4G with what we must accept as "4G" here in the U.S.A.). They do not need government assistance in tightening their stranglehold. What they need is competition.

A free marketplace and a neutral Internet, will not only encourage newer, more innovative, better priced competitors. It will even stimulate those big Bell Babies to do better!

PS I no longer have telephone land line, cell phone, and Internet service from AT&T. Why? Because a year ago, AT&T contacted me and offered to upgrade my service and lower my monthly charges. I accepted and found that after two months, and because of hidden rates, charges, and conditions, my monthly telecoms costs had doubled. I dumped AT&T, called Sonic and everything got better! Nice to be doing business with honest people at last.(Don't believe me? I have a complete paper trail, including emails to and from the AT&T Office of the President!)

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